(a) whether a conference on Electronics and telecommunications in India by 2000 A.D. was organised in New Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the objectives of the said conference;

(c) whether some apprehensions about the potential of electronics and telecommunications have been felt in the conference;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to take steps to remove such apprehensions for smooth development in these fields in future;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not,the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS(SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Capital foundation society (regd.) a private organisation organised a national conference on telecommunications in Indian-2000 in November, 1991 in Delhi. According to the letter of the organiser addressed to the Department of Electronics the objective of the said conference was to deliberate on issues of national importance to articulate public opinion and help policy formulation.

(c) to (g) There was a view that radical changes in the customs and excise duty structure was needed to give a much needed fillip to the electronics and telecommunication industry.

Government are constantly reviewing the requirements of different industries including electronics and telecommunication and the tariff for the different items are also modified from time to time after an appreciation of all factors.

Prices of Vitamin "A' In Kerala

4493. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has requested to enhance the price of Vitemin "'A' manufactured in the Kerala State Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd.;

(b) whether the State Government has also requested to withdraw the import duty of the raw maerials required for the manufacture of vitamin "A" in Kerala State Druge and Pharmaceuticals, Alleppey;and

(c)if so, the action taken on these requests so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN):(a)and (b).No, Sir. This Ministry has not received such requests from the Government of Kerala.

(c) Does not arise.

Polio Vaccine

4494. SHRI.PRADHANI:Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether polio vaccine is being produced in the country;

(b)if so, whether the quantity of the vaccine produced is adequate to meet the demand of the country; and

(c)if not, the steps being taken to increase the indigenous production of polio vaccine?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA):(a) and (b). Indigenous production of polio vaccine in the country is not yet achieved to meet the needs of the country. However,the country has oral polio vaccine blending facilities from imported bulk.

(c) A project to manufacture Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV)indigenously has been taken up by Govt. of india in 1987. A public sector company namely 'Bharat Immunologicals and Biologicals Corporation Limited(BIBCOL)has been incorporated under the companies Act. The company Is setting up a Manufacturingcum R&D Unit to produce 100 million doses of OPV per annum at Bulandshahr in Uttar Pradesh.The civil construction of the plant and accessory facilities is nearing completion.Indigenous production by this unit would commence during 1992.

Facilities are also being created at Haffkine Biopharmaceuticals Corporation Limited, Bombay for indigenous production of OPV. This unit will have a capacity of 30-50 million doses per annum.

Marketing of Drugs without Approval

4495. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA:
DR.RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that a large number of drugs and formulations are being manufactured and marketed in the country without valid approval;

(b)if so,the particulars of the drug companies found guilty in this regard during 1991 so far; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken against such companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) No such violation of (D & R) Act by drug manufacturers has come to the notice of the Department.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Flour Mills in Karnataka

4496. SHRIMATI CHANDRA PRABHA URS: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a)the number of roller flour mills in Karnataka;

(b)the total quantity of wheat required by these roller flour mills every month;

(c)the quantity of wheat allotted to each roller flour mill from January, 1991 to the end of October, 1991;

(d) whether there is cut in the supply of wheat to these roller flour mills;

(e)if so,the reasons therefor; and

(f) whether the Government propose to allot the required quantity of wheat to these roller flour mills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD(SHRI TARUN GOGOI):(a) The Roller Flour Milling Industry was delicensed in 1986.Therefore,the details of the new Mills established thereafter or the Mills which closed down are not known to this Ministry.

(b) to (f). The roller flour milling industry being de-controlled and delicensed, the Central Government has no obligation to